

REMARKS

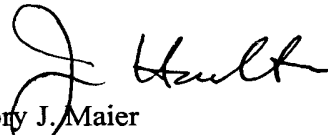
The present Second Preliminary Amendment is submitted to correct for a minor informality in claim 35.

Further, by the Second Preliminary Amendment it is also noted that the given and family name of the inventor of the above-identified application were reversed on page 3 of the declaration, although the declaration was properly signed. That is, the inventor's proper name is Takashi MASATO, i.e. given name Masato and family name Takashi. That name is properly signed by the inventor on page 3 of the declaration and thus a new declaration is not deemed necessary.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599
Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423



22850

(703) 413-3000
Fax No.: (703) 413-2220
GJM:SNS\la
I:\atty\SNS\206379-pr.wpd

James D. Hamilton
Registration No. 28,421

Marked-Up Copy

Serial No:

Amendment Filed on:

6-21-01

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 35 as follows:

--35. (Amended) A stage unit according to Claim 28, further comprising
a stage base that movably supports the sample stage and is supported [by]

independently of the first transmitting member.--